

BUPERSINST 1401.4A
Pers-446B
May 15 1997

BUPERS INSTRUCTION 1401.4A

From: Chief of Naval Personnel

To: All Ships and Stations (less Marine Corps field addressees not having Navy personnel attached)

Subj: ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE SELECTION PROGRAM

Encl: (1) APPLICATION FOR ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE SELECTION BOARD

1. Purpose. To publish information concerning the Astronaut Selection Program and provide procedures for application to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space Shuttle Program. This is a complete revision and should be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUPERSINST 1401.4.

3. Background. NASA will biennially select pilot and/or mission specialist astronaut candidates for future shuttle teams. In a memorandum of agreement between Department of Defense and NASA, a provision is made for highly qualified Navy personnel to participate in the nationwide astronaut candidate selection program. Successful applicants will be assigned to positions located at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX, and be involved in a 1-year training and evaluation program, after which they will enter the astronaut corps and be eligible for assignment as pilot and mission specialist astronauts on future missions.

4. General. Interested personnel who desire to become a pilot or mission specialist astronaut and who meet the selection criteria are encouraged to submit an application via their commanding officer to the Chief of Naval Personnel (Pers-446B) following the applicable procedures in this instruction. NASA has emphasized their desire for maximum participation by women and minorities. These personnel are urged to apply. A selection board will convene biennially to identify the best qualified nominees for the astronaut positions. The list of selected nominees will then be forwarded to NASA for final consideration. NASA will select astronauts from this list, 6 nominees from 6 other services, and civilian applicants.

5. Pilot Astronaut Qualification Requirements. Military applicants for the pilot astronaut candidate program must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- a. Be a naval aviator on active duty with a minimum of 5 years active commissioned service.
- b. Have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in engineering, biological or physical science, or mathematics. An advanced degree or

equivalent experience is desired. Quality of academic preparation is important.

c. Have acquired a minimum of 1,000 hours pilot-in-command time in jet aircraft. Flight test experience is highly desirable.

d. Be able to pass a NASA Class I space flight physical (similar to Navy Class I, Service Group I flight physical) to include the following specific standards:

Distant Visual Acuity:

20/50 or better uncorrected;
correctable to 20/20 each eye.

Hearing loss not to exceed:

Frequency (HZ) *	$\frac{500}{30}$	$\frac{1000}{25}$	$\frac{2000}{25}$	$\frac{4000}{50}$
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International Standards Organization (PER-ISO),
1964 Standard

Blood Pressure:

Preponderant systolic not to exceed 140, nor diastolic to exceed 90 Millimeter (MM) mercury (HG), measured in a recumbent position.

e. Applicant height must be between 64 and 76 inches.

6. Mission Specialist Qualification Requirements. Military applicants for the mission specialist astronaut candidate program must meet the following minimum qualifications:

a. Be a U.S. citizen on active duty with minimum 5 years active commissioned service.

b. Have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in engineering, biological or physical science, or mathematics. Degree must be supplemented by at least 3 years relatable experience. An advanced degree is desired and may be substituted for the experience requirement (master's degree; 1 year; PhD degree; 3 years). Quality of academic preparation is important.

c. Be able to pass a NASA Class II space flight physical (similar to Navy Class I, Service Group III flight physical) to include the following specific standards:

Distant Visual Acuity:

20/200 or better uncorrected;
correctable to 20/20 each eye.

Hearing loss not to exceed:

$$\text{Frequency (HZ)} * \frac{500}{30} \quad \frac{1000}{25} \quad \frac{2000}{25} \quad \frac{4000}{50}$$

PER ISO, 1964 Standard

Blood Pressure:

Preponderant systolic not to exceed 140, nor diastolic to exceed 90 MM HG,
measured in a recumbent position.

d. Applicant height must be between 58.5 and 76 inches.

7. Application Procedures

a. The selection board convening date will be announced by message biennially. Applications with all enclosures must be submitted in format shown in enclosure (1) and must be received at Pers-446B no later than 60 days prior to the published selection board convening month.

b. Copies of SF 88's; Report of Medical Examination; SF 93's, Report of Medical History; and JSC 465's, Supplemental Medical History; outlined in reference (a); must be forwarded to Naval Operational Medicine Institute, ATTN: Code 42, 220 Hovey Road, Pensacola, FL 32508, for review 30 days prior to board convening date.

8. Required Enclosures. The following enclosures must be included with the application:

a. SF 88, Report of Medical Examination, filled out by a flight surgeon and dated not earlier than 6 months prior to the board (enclosure (1)).

b. SF 93, Report of Medical History, dated not earlier than 6 months prior to the Navy board (enclosure (2)).

c. JSC 465, Supplemental Medical History, (enclosure (3)).

d. Copy of College Transcripts (enclosure (4)).

e. JSC 490, Supplemental Information, (enclosure (5)).

f. OF 612, Application for Federal Employment, (enclosure (6)).

g. For pilot applicants only - JSC 603, Summary of Aeronautical Experience, (enclosure (7)).

9. Command Endorsement. Commanders are enjoined to ensure widest possible dissemination of this program. Endorsements to applications will include a personal assessment of the applicant as a prospective astronaut and a recommendation for the requested duty.

10. Forms. A complete package of the required forms in this instruction may be obtained by writing Pers-446B at the following address:

CHIEF OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
PERS 446B
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-4460

The complete package of forms consists of:

- a. SF 88, (Rev. 3-89), Report of Medical Examination
- b. SF 93, (Rev. 10-74), Report of Medical History
- c. OF 612, Application for Federal Employment
- d. JSC 465 (Rev. 8-89), Supplemental Medical History
- e. JSC 490, (Rev. 6-85), Supplemental Information
- f. JSC 603 (Rev. 5-83), Summary of Aeronautical Experience

L. R. MARSH
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel

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SAMPLE APPLICATION FORMAT

From: Rank, Name (First, Middle, Last), SSN/Designation
To: Bureau of Naval Personnel (Pers-446B)
Via: Commanding Officer

Subj: APPLICATION FOR ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE SELECTION BOARD

Ref: (a) BUPERSINST 1401.4A

Encl: (1) SF 88, Report of Medical Examination
(2) SF 93, Report of Medical History
(3) JSC 465, Supplemental Medical History
(4) Copy of College Transcripts
(5) JSC 490, Supplemental Information
(6) OF 612, Application for Federal Employment
(7) JSC 603, Summary of Aeronautical Experience

1. Per reference (a), I request to be considered for the pilot and/or mission specialist astronaut program (as applicable) with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

2. Current Military Address:

3. Date of Commission:

4. Instrument Rating (if applicable)

5. Flying Experience (if applicable)

a. Total hours:

b. First pilot total hours:

c. First pilot hours within last 12 months:

d. First pilot hours in jet aircraft:

e. First pilot hours in jet aircraft within last 12 months:

f. Aircraft in which current (as of application date):

g. List aircraft flown by: type, total hours, date last flown:

h. Test Pilot school/graduate date:

i. Test pilot experience (number of years):

j. Aviation combat experience:

6. Education Background:

a. Service schools:

b. College(s) attended:

(1) Degree(s) and year of graduation (major/minor):

(2) Grade point average based on 4.0 system (undergraduate and graduate):

7. Experience/Technical Competence (mission specialist only) describe:

a. Post-graduate job experience (degree related):

b. Experience in aeronautic/space related fields:

(Signature)